

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10

DOT-00 H-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 EPA-04

CEQ-02 SCI-06 DRC-01 /141 W
----- 055482

R 271719Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0707

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, GW, SENV, UK, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - CONCORDE

REF: LONDON 2476

1. IN REPORTS DATELINED COLOGNE AND PARIS, ALL MAJOR GERMAN DAILIES ON FEBRUARY 27 CARRIED THE STORY OF LUFTHANSA'S (DLH) WITHDRAWAL OF ITS CONCORDE OPTIONS. IN MAKING THE ANNOUNCEMENT, DLH SPOKESMAN CULMANN IS REPORTED TO HAVE AGAIN REFERRED TO EARLIER COMMENTS BY THE GERMAN CARRIER CONCERNING THE UNECONOMIC FEATURES OF THE AIRCRAFT WITH RESPECT TO PAYLOAD AND RANGE AND ADDED THAT THE PROHIBITIVE FUEL COSTS NOW WERE ONLY ONE FINAL ELEMENT IN THE DECISION.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, CULMANN SAID THAT THE PRESENT DECISION WAS NOT NECESSARILY A FINAL "NO" TO SST AIRCRAFT AND HE ADDED THAT DLH HAD FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES CANCELLED ITS OPTIONS LAST YEAR. IT WAS
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RECALLED THAT LUFTHANSA WAS ONE OF THE LAST AMONG 16

CARRIERS TO HAVE PLACED OPTIONS FOR THE CONCORDE.
INCLUDING DLH'S CANCELLATION, 34 OPTIONS HAVE BEEN
VOIDED SO FAR. REPORTEDLY, THE GERMAN CARRIER'S
DECISION DID NOT CAUSE ANY RUFFLES IN PARIS AS LUFT-
HANSA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CONCORDE HAD BEEN KNOWN
THERE FOR SOME TIME.
HILLENBRAND

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